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POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
No. 1392

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ALBANIA

ACTIVITY OF MILITARY COLLEGIUMS OF DISTRICT COURTS

Tirana DREJTESIA POPULLORE in Albanian No 4 (Oct-Dec) 76 pp 66-72

[Unsigned article: "The Enforcement of the Line of the Masses by the Military Collegiums of District Courts"]

[Text] In October of this year the Supreme Court and the Office of the Procurator General organized in Tirana a meeting with the military judges and procurators of the districts, with some court presidents, district procurators, investigators of the internal affairs organs and assistant military judges. That meeting was attended by the President of the Supreme Court, Comrade Aranit Cela and Comrade Rrapi Mino.

Comrade Eleni Selenica, vice president of the Supreme Court, informed the participants of the conclusions of the plenum of the Supreme Court concerning the analysis "On the Enforcement of the Line of the Masses by the Military Collegiums of the District Courts," while Comrade Qemal Lame, president of the Army Branch under the Office of the Procurator General, rendered a report titled "Let Us Further Strengthen the Precise Enforcement of Socialist Legality in the Investigation and Judgment of Penal (Military) Cases and Elevate the Procurator's Control in This Respect." Both the persons presenting the reports and the other comrades who engaged in the discussion pointed out the successes achieved with regard to the above problems, indicated the good experience in the work of a good many military collegiums, district military procurators and assistant judges, analyzed from a critical and self-critical standpoint the particular shortcomings and weaknesses, and stipulated measures to be taken to improve the work further.

In conclusion, Comrade Rrapi Mino drew conclusions and set forth the tasks facing the judicial organs and the procurator general's office in enhancing their role with regard to the enforcement of socialist legality in the army.

We summarize below the conclusions and tasks of the plenum of the Supreme Court on the enforcement of the line of the masses by the military collegiums of the district courts, which were widely discussed.

Both in judging concrete cases and in other points of their daily activity, the collegiums have, in general, done a better job with regard to enforcing the line of the masses in a great variety of forms. The successes achieved in this respect are based on the insurance of the party's leading role. In their work, the military judges have been guided by the party's policy, by the teachings and instructions of Comrade Enver. They have maintained good contacts with the party committees and basic organizations in the army and have reported on the problems which concern them. In Korce, Mat, Elbasan and Berat, the basic party organization in the courts has analyzed the activity of the collegium and assisted the progress of the work by its comments and directions.

In general, penal (military) cases should be tried in the units, before the full force [efektiv]. This has been and remains the constant order of the Supreme Court. But this order must be understood and executed in a creative manner, in conformity with the party's teachings. Those cases which are deemed to require the opinion of the masses should be investigated and tried before the masses, and the verdict to be rendered on them will play a truly educational role. There is no sense in holding many meetings with the people to investigate and try cases when it is known that a case presents no special social or political interest. This means that the military judges should not vie with one another in holding as many trials as possible, indiscriminately, in the military units before the full force, but neither should they neglect them and let them be penned up in the courtrooms.

The quality of those judgments has been generally good. In all cases where trials have been held in the units, they have been prepared with care and according to a work plan, and their quality has been satisfactory; the mass of the soldiers has taken an active part in the trial and discussed and condemned manifestations opposed to our communist mortality. But this is not always the case. There are still shortcomings in this respect. The manifestations of them are diverse.

The reasons for the poor quality of some judgments before the units must be sought; first, the collegiums sometimes do not take the necessary measures to organize these trials and do not coordinate their actions with the military commands and especially with the Youth Organizations in the army, which play an important role in educating the youth in a sense of responsible respect for socialist legality. Second, the judges themselves do not always correctly appraise the holding of a trial in the unit for so-called "minor" crimes. Third, the judges do not always bear in mind the orders given to raise the degree of the judicial process and to put it on a planning basis.

In particular cases, where the full force is not activated during the trial of cases before units, the military judges should seriously concern themselves about such instances. They should not be tolerated, however rare they may be. They are due to the inadequate work of the military judges themselves. The latter do not take the necessary or organizational measures and do not effect a concrete collaboration and cooperation with the youth organizations in the army and with the commands of the units to insure the successful conduct of every trial before the unit.

Trials before the units must be understood and conducted as an important political actions, requiring absolutely perfect organization. As soon as it is learned that a trial will be held before a unit, a social debate should be kindled: by open meetings, sounding boards, with flyers or slogans unmasking the deed of the culprit, showing clearly the harmful consequences of it, analyzing the causes and proposing measures to be taken to prevent the repetition of other acts of this nature. The whole force of the unit should be included in such a positive activity. If action is taken as mentioned above, good results will surely be obtained. Therefore, on the basis of these criteria, all the collegiums should make more of an effort especially to raise the quality of these trials.

As a form of work, the collegiums have also conducted trials with the participation of a specific category of soldiers interested in the case. Such trials, which have been conducted mostly by the collegiums of Durres, Berat, Vlore and Shkoder districts, and especially, Tirana District, have yielded useful results as the proper lessons have been drawn and problems have been discussed which have arisen from concrete cases and have concerned all the participants in the trial. Although the usefulness of these trials is known, they have been used little in practice because the military judges have not tried as hard as they should to practice diverse forms of enforcing the line of the masses.

The military collegiums, in judging cases and in other kinds of daily activity, have likewise held preliminary talks with the directors of the party organs, the youth organs and the commandants of the military units, and, through this form of work, have insured a better collaboration with the army and learn about its needs and problems. Especially noteworthy in this respect are the collegiums of Durres, Gjirokaster and Diber districts. Nevertheless, there are cases where the collegiums have not held such talks though they are necessary. Similarly, there are rare cases where the judges do not take into account the just requests made by the army comrades during these talks.

The above shortcomings occur because the judges do not properly appraise the importance and usefulness of applying this form of work, pause before the difficulties presented by its application in cases where the units have been located far from the district center, content themselves with little and do not carry this work to the end.

Comrade Enver teaches us that study leads to deeper conclusions on the causes and circumstances of a crime and makes it possible to determine the most effective tasks and measures. The collegiums have devoted due care to the study and generalization of crime in the army. Thus, the military collegiums of Vlore and Fier jointly, and of Shkoder, Gjirokaster, Berat and Kukes have made generalizations to discover the dynamics and causes of certain kinds of military crimes, and have come up with proposals for measures to be taken. Similarly, the military collegiums of Korce, Diber and Vlore districts have analyzed the crime situation in their regions, and the activity of the collegium itself, and have determined the tasks for the future. It is a positive fact that these generalizations or analyses have generally been prepared with care, have been made known to the party organ and the commands of the units, and have helped them in their work.

It is noted as a shortcoming that the studies and generalizations have been made by the collegiums alone, with reference to judicial cases, without collaborating with the military commands, with the public attorney organs and the internal affairs branch, as well as with the youth organizations in the army. This collaboration, which makes possible a full study and generalization of the crime problem and the correct adoption of the concrete measures that should be taken, has not been made a method of work.

Similarly, no studies and generalizations on crime are being made for each specific brigade or unit. This is because the judicial work done is not being reviewed; the judges do not pay attention to why violations and crimes are reported relatively more often from this or that unit. The special and timely importance of study and generalizing work is still not understood and evaluated correctly, and it is not borne in mind that this work is not a matter of campaigns, but a great matter of a preventive character involving responsibility.

In trying cases, the collegiums have devoted care to discovering the causes which have prompted or favored a crime and have come forth with proposals regarding measures to be taken to put a stop to violation of the law. For this purpose, the collegiums have used special warning signals and, in very rare cases, special decisions. The collegiums of Diber, Shkoder, Berat and Elbasan districts have done the best work in this respect.

The number of warning signals is larger than in the past, but in this respect there are still shortcomings. The collegiums have not brought up many political-social problems in due time, and now they have lost timeliness. There are collegiums, such as that of Mat, which have not practiced this form of work at all; or those of Korce, Vlore, Tirana and Durres districts, which have done little in this respect. The collegiums have done very little in the way of taking special decisions. And every collegium has had and has occasions for taking such decisions.

The matter of bringing up problems must be appraised more seriously, as a factor necessary for the successful conduct of the preventive effort. No military judge has any reason to claim that he has performed this duty well merely because he has given some warning signals relatively more often than in the past.

The inadequate work done in this respect is due to the fact that the military judges withdraw from the judgment of concrete cases, while in some cases they do not regard as an important party duty their study and generalizing work in the crime field, the work of bringing up political, ideological and social problems. This is also due to the fact that the presidents of the district courts have taken little interest and have not exercised periodic controls over the work of the respective military collegiums, have not given the necessary aid, nor have they demanded an accounting to a sufficient degree.

The military collegiums have rightly evaluated the educational effect of popularizing the laws. In this respect, a good many collegiums have done good work. Many talks have been held with soldiers. The elaboration of the draft constitution has given an impetus to this work. In determining the laws to be popularized, more consideration has been given to the discipline situation in the units, the requests made by the army comrades themselves, and the nature and pertinence of the concrete cases heard.

Popularization of the laws, as a rule, has been done according to plan, and some collegiums have created positive work experience. Thus, in Gjirokaster every procurator and judge have sponsored military units, the topical law plan has been approved by the party committee of the corps, and has been sent to the subordinate units, which have coordinated the work with the respective judge according to the present needs. The Elbasan collegium has prepared special lectures, and they have been distributed to the assistant military judges, who have worked on them. In Korce they have continued the well-known practice of popularizing the laws in the form of drives, while the Diber collegium has insured the participation of the cadres of the border units in the seminars organized on the problem of respecting the border regime. Of course, forms of work such as these could be successfully applied by the collegiums of other districts too. In a special case, the Berat military collegium, taking its cue from a concrete case, has put out a "communique" (or "announcement") for all the youth organizations of the military units under its jurisdiction, reporting on the bad conduct of two offending soldiers, analyzing the causes and suggesting its discussion with the members of the Union of Working Youth of Albania, and deducing concrete tasks for putting a stop to particular negative manifestations. This new form of work has also been practiced by the Durres collegium, and an orientation has been given for its application by the other collegiums, case by case.

Placing the daily activity of the collegiums under the control of the masses is a permanent task for them. In this respect, too, diverse forms have been applied. One of these forms has been the rendering of an accounting by the military judges. Thus, some of them have given an accounting in 3 or 4 cases to the full force of the military units.

But even when an accounting has been given, it is found that in some cases this is done by using the local courts or other assemblies, without a careful preparation and with only some general talk. The military judges have not given an accounting on any faculty decision or on any concrete matter which they have not judged well.

The rendering of an accounting by the military judges to the full force of a unit is a very important party and state duty, an indication of the seriousness of the work of every cadre and elected organ. It is one of the basic features distinguishing our judges from any bourgeois or revisionist judge. No one is allowed to show unconcern in this regard. Therefore, every military judge must effect a turnaround in the performance of this task.

To place its own activity under the control of the mass of soldiers, the Gjirokaster military collegium has adopted the practice of elaborating the conclusions drawn from the judgment of concrete cases. This collegium, like that of Elbasan, has likewise practiced the popularization of the judicial decisions rendered on particular cases. In Elbasan, the assistant military judges have also been activated for this work.

In a particular case, the Gjirokaster military collegium has heard a concrete case in the presence of the worker-soldier control, has listened to its comments and combined its own observations with those of the worker-soldier control, producing a more complete record of the violations of legality in the unit. The collegium also issued a special warning signal for the respective organ, in which it suggested that such violations could also be perceived in other links of the unit. The warning signal was evaluated and caused the adoption of the necessary measures. This effective of work with a good political and ideological content can be practiced, case by case, by any collegium.

The particular shortcomings and weaknesses mentioned above cannot reduce the value of the good work done by the military collegiums with regard to the execution of the line of the masses. The effects of this work (naturally also in conjunction with the great educational and persuasive job done by the party, which is the determining factor) are appreciable. It suffices to mention the further drop in crime in the army during the first six months of 1976.

But, in order to achieve further successes, the plenum directed that the following principal tasks also be taken into consideration:

--The assuring of the leading role of the party in the work of the collegiums, the strengthening of their ties with the party committees and basic organizations in the army, as well as in forming them on a continuing basis about the problems of legality, must be appraised by every military judge as a paramount and permanent duty. In particular, more effort must be made and all due care must be shown to strengthen and develop the ties with the youth organizations and the commandants of the units; work with them must be coordinated in order to conduct the trials successfully before the units, to discover and bring up the problems raised by the work of the collegiums, to make joint studies and generalizations in the field of crime in the army, to activate the mass of soldiers in the fight to prevent crime, and so forth.

--An effort must be made to create correct concepts about the diverse forms through which the line of the masses is enforced. They must not be confined solely to trials in the units, before the full force, which are undoubtedly necessary and useful, but other forms should be practiced too. For example, in instances where a concrete case is not useful or cannot be judged before the full force, it should be judged with a specific category of persons; or it should be judged in the courtroom, but the judicial decision should be popularized before the full force concerned with it, or

the conclusions of the verdict should be elaborated. Other forms of work may be practiced, such as communication, notification, warnings, proclamation, flyers, and so forth, so that the mass of soldiers will be informed of the act and its author, of the causes that led to it and of the measures that must be taken to prevent its recurrence. Which of these forms of work must be practiced in each concrete case is a question to be decided with care and maturity by the military judge in collaboration with the local party organization, the youth organization and the command of the military unit.

In addition to the above, the military judges must make every effort to find and put into effect new forms of application of the line of the masses in all its aspects. For example, the use of sounding boards in the army, the use of announcements and flyers to unmask offenders and those who violate the laws may be practiced and tested by them. The making of studies and generalizations of criminality with the full force of the individual units, the exploitation of the press organs to popularize the laws with which the army is concerned, and so forth, may be practiced.

It should be well understood that the application in practice of all the forms mentioned, in various places and at various times, concerning the most varied problems and questions, not only breaks the monotony of the forms of work, but creates favorable possibilities for keeping the mass of soldiers ever activated in the crime-prevention fight, so as to keep this fight ever alive, and to derive social benefits on a broader scale from one or more negative cases.

--The military judges must study successively the orders issued by the Supreme Court regarding the judicial process on a higher level, and must be familiar with those orders and put them fully into effect, without any omission. Every one of them must thoroughly understand that the enforcement of those orders is an important condition for the successful performance of every task assigned to him.

--The assistant military judges are important levers to bring the voice of the full force into the court. They keep the judges abreast of the problems and needs facing the military units in the sphere of enforcement of legality, insure permanent ties between the army and the collegiums, and lend practical assistance in performing the many tasks facing the collegiums. Therefore, it is necessary to remove the shortcomings and weaknesses noted in the work with them.

To improve the work with the assistant military judges to an appreciable degree, they must be activated more during the judicial sessions in which they take part as members of the judicial body. All military judges must show the proper care in activating the assistant judges to popularize the laws and judicial decisions among the mass of soldiers, with regard to the rendering of an accounting by them, the successful organization and conduct of trials before the units, and so forth. Their ideo-professional improvement must be kept in the center of attention and, for this purpose, periodic

seminars with them must be organized more often, and their participation must be insured in some of the seminars and aktivs organized with the civilian assistant judges.

--Good work has been done by the presidencies and collectives of the courts of Korce, Diber, Berat and Vlore districts, which have analyzed the work of the respective military collegiums. The president of the district court must be well informed about all the work of the military judge, know how he is conducting trials before the units, what obstacles and difficulties he encounters, and must intervene to overcome them; he must know how the military judge acts in studying and generalizing crime in the army, to discover, bring up and resolve political-social problems; he must know how he acts in applying the line of the masses, popularizing the laws, with regard to the rendering of accounts and every other indicator of the work of the military judge; he must acquaint himself with and point out in due time the shortcoming and weaknesses in the work of a collegium, and its causes, and must issue guidelines about correcting errors and demand an accounting. It is precisely the periodic analyses of the activity of the military collegiums that serve these purposes and help to improve the work. Likewise, the presidents of the courts must show more care in charging military judges with hearing other nonmilitary cases. It must be borne in mind that the main duty of military judges is work connected with the army, and that, to do this duty well, they must be allowed the necessary time.

--The Supreme Court, through the military collegium, the directorate of the Organization and its whole apparatus, must organize the assistance and control of the district military collegiums to a better extent.

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

CSSR OPPOSITION HARDER PRESSED THAN IN 1968

Hamburg DIE ZEIT in German 14 Apr 77 p 11

[Text] In the beginning, the Czechoslovak human rights movement "Charter 77" was difficult to attack on ideological grounds. Demands for humane treatment were in agreement at least with communist theory, even if not with communist practice. Besides, Charter spokesmen have emphasized repeatedly that their group did not want to be a political opposition and that it agreed with socialist order. It was only with their Document No 7, published at the time of Jan Patocka's death, that the signers--meanwhile numbering more than 600--left the pulpit of lofty morals and stepped into the arena of politics.

They lashed out at the favored treatment of the party faithful at their places of work, they judged the unusually high ratio of female employees (every second woman is employed) as an indication of social coercion, not as a sign of equality, and they talked about hidden unemployment, negligence and indifference at work. For all this they blamed the system in power.

In the CSSR one can hear the following opportunist opinion: "The contents of the Charter are correct, but the wrong people signed it." There is some truth in this. And this truth is not diminished by the fact that alongside the spokesmen of the "Prague Spring" an unusually colorful group of people has banded together: young idealists with Trotskyist ideals, former social democrats, people inspired by Eurocommunism, Christians, idealists, honest humanists. It is noteworthy however that only a few Slovaks signed the Charter.

The government recognizes very clearly the direction of the thrust. Already, Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek pointed out to Western diplomats the terrifying vision that the humanitarian demands of the Charter were only a pretense--before long its followers would demand plurality of opinion, a middle-class multiparty system and eventually a secession from the Warsaw Pact and the dissolution of ties with Moscow. "Exactly like Hungary in 1956." Or exactly like 1968.

It is logical to think of 1968 when speaking about Charter 77. But the new movement is not an analogous phenomenon. At least three elements are missing:

First: The reforms of 1968 came from within the party itself. In a process that lasted for many years, the ideas of the reformers were brought to bear first on the economy, then on the party, then in a parallel movement on the intellectual leadership, the students and finally the people. Charter 77 is in a completely different situation. It exerts outside influence on the party, which is shutting itself off completely. Opportunist bureaucrats, technicians of power, and ideologists stand like a phalanx. Among the Charter followers there are realists who do not ignore this massive bloc; but they are putting their trust in the generation process through which the septuagenarians in today's Kremlin might be replaced by younger and more adaptable polit-managers. In this connection the name of the 49-year-old Konstantin Katushev has been frequently mentioned in the past few months, the Central Committee's secretary for party relations who meanwhile however has quit. Many people in Prague are of the opinion that the USSR must change, otherwise there would be an inevitable conflict between the countries of its empire that were formed by Western culture and the Moscow center.

Second: The economic pressure weighing on the country and the people until 1968 has apparently been lifted. For the price of technological stagnation (low investment rates) the people were and are getting a selection of consumer goods surprising for communist countries. The ordinary citizen does not suffer privation and therefore does not see, as in 1968, the need for change. There are no conflicts with labor, as in Poland. Urgently needed economic reforms, as well as measures to improve efficiency, are avoided because the government does not want to get involved with the workers.

Third: The experiences of the 1968 invasion had a paralyzing effect. The people do not want political experiments. The campaign waged by the party against Charter supporters gives an idea of the tough measures that might yet come. Besides, at the beginning of the year Big Brother USSR was already quickly on hand and not afraid to offer advice.

The entire government apparatus seems meanwhile to have fallen prey to the temptation of labeling the Charter movement as a renewed beginning of a dangerous political movement. About 2 weeks after the publication of the Charter manifesto it looked as if the agitation (business) would stop. "Let us look into the future." wrote the party press at that time. But Foreign Minister Chnoupek (who has no strong position in the party hierarchy) and Premier Lubomir Strougal have had only temporary success with their argument that Prague should not again maneuver itself into a foreign policy position of isolation. Strougal, who has never taken a public stand in the Charter question, is considered a hopeful future prospect by optimists in the civil rights group. Party Chief Husak at first adopted a placatory position, but then argued a little more clearly against the Charter. What he really thinks remains in twilight. As late as 1969 Husak told Milan Huebl he wanted the "Kadarization" of Czechoslovakia. However, he kept only half of his promise: he purged the reformers from the party; he did not keep the more important second half: to promote understanding between party

and people. At the present time it must be assumed that influential Central Committee Secretary Vasil Bilak is responsible for the sound, words, direction and speed of the current campaign. He has openly declared war on the signers of the Charter.

Because Charter 77 has now become a political issue, the tendency of the leadership toward a softer course will hardly prevail. And thus, once again the thesis is confirmed that in the eyes of communist statesmen any deviation of opinion must necessarily lead to opposition, and traditionally opposition followers do not last long.

8889

CSO: 2300

EAST GERMANY

STOPH ADDRESSES CADRE ON SOCIALIST DEMOCRACY, DEMOCRATIC CENTRALISM

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 10 May 77 p 2 AU

[ND report on Politburo member Willi Stoph lecture before leading cadres at the East Berlin Central Committee Building on 9 May]

[Text] Berlin (ND)--On Monday Willi Stoph, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, spoke on the subject: "The Ninth SED Congress on the Further Universal Strengthening of the Socialist State in the GDR," in the framework of the central lecture series on theoretical fundamental problems, at the house of the Central Committee.

In his lecture Comrade Stoph proceeded from the premise that in developing our state we are consistently implementing the teachings of Marx, Engels and Lenin who characterized the establishment and constant strengthening of the political rule of the workers class as the fundamental prerequisite for solving the tasks in the revolutionary transition period from capitalism to communism. The socialist state never was and never is an end in itself. It always constitutes the main instrument in the hands of the workers class for consistently implementing the policy of the Marxist-Leninist party for the benefit of all working people. Thus the main task adopted by the party is at the center of all the state's work and has become a synonym for our state policy. The constant deepening of our state's internationalist role finds its supreme expression in the fraternal cooperation with the Soviet Union.

In the GDR the workers class is implementing its political rule in close alliance with the class of cooperative peasants, the intelligentsia and the other working people. The road hitherto pursued of cooperation with the friendly parties as well as the collaboration of all political and social forces in the framework of the national front has stood its test and will be continued.

Willi Stoph thoroughly discussed the purposeful implementation of the decisions of the Ninth Party Congress. Here the further development and perfecting of socialist democracy is of particular importance. It

increasingly permeates all spheres of social life and is being implemented through an extensive system of state organs, of social organizations, associations, and leagues of the working people. The trade unions, being the most comprehensive class organizations of the workers, are playing a constantly growing role for the party, state and economic functionaries the commitment arises more and more effectively to activate the forces existing in all strata of the people for their own benefit, forces only the socialist society is able to bring out.

Taking issue with anticommunist and anti-Soviet slander, Comrade Stoph proved that only in socialism has it become possible to implement the demand for freedom, equality, and fraternity raised by revolutionary movements of the past centuries. "History teaches that human rights can be implemented only to that extent as socialism is becoming reality. And the human right [das Menschenrecht] of the individual is an element of the people's right to self-determination. Through the growing influence of the socialist states it was made possible to give the people's right to self-determination first place in the human rights' catalog. Without the people's right to self-determination there can be no secured rights for the individual citizen." The present situation is marked by the fact that the workers class and the working people in the capitalist states have to defend the ideals of freedom and democracy that at one time were formulated by the bourgeoisie itself against the imperialist reaction.

The speaker then discussed questions of the state leadership, especially of the consistent further development of democratic centralism. The advantage of our society lies precisely in its ability to organize with the aid of democratic centralism, the uniform acting of all working people under the leadership of the Marxist-Leninist party, and to uniformly implement the socialist state policy. In economic leadership it is necessary to further strengthen the material-technical basis of the developed socialist society through the comprehensive socialist intensification. To this end it is necessary to more rapidly implement the scientific-technical progress. We will promote the socialist economic integration and fulfill the adopted tasks with all the means at our disposal because the GDR's continuous development and the further strengthening of the community of socialist states decisively depend on this.

The local state organs bear great responsibility for the implementation of the socialist state policy. Special attention should be paid to the closer cooperation with the associations of state enterprises, combines and enterprises. Thus important reserves can be utilized for the fulfillment of state tasks in the territories [territorien] and branches. The territorial rationalization is proving more and more to be an important instrument for boosting efficiency in the national economy and for further improving the working peoples' working and living conditions.

In another part of his lecture Comrade Stoph discussed the perfecting of the socialist legal system. It is a priority task to direct the attitude of the leaders of collectives toward the fulfillment of the social requirements

and to develop their creative initiative even more efficiently by strict compliance with and observance of all legal regulations. Especially in the national economy the consistent implementation of legality, security, order and discipline under the conditions of the scientific-technical revolution proves to be an important reserve of economic and social progress. In the concluding part of his lecture, Comrade Stoph stressed the responsibility of our party's basic organizations in the state apparatus. The further strengthening of the leading role of the workers class and its Marxist-Leninist party in all spheres of social life is the decisive factor for the all-around political, economic, ideological and military strengthening of our socialist state of workers and peasants, and for the development of socialist democracy.

CSO: 2300

EAST GERMANY

BRIEFS

NEW OFFICERS ACADEMY COMMANDER--Kurt Winter (SED), NVA Major General, is the new commander of the "Ernst Thaelmann" Officers Academy of the NVA ground forces in Loebau (Dresden Bezirk). He has replaced Lieutenant General Hans Ernst (SED), about whose future assignment nothing has been announced as yet. Kurt Winter, born in 1923, is the son of a construction worker. In 1945 as a soldier, he became a prisoner of war of the Soviets. He was released in 1949 after antifascist training. After his return he joined the People's Police and later transferred into the National People's Army by way of the Garrisoned People's Police. In 1962 he finished a course at the Soviet General Staff Academy in Moscow. Subsequently he was a regimental commander and first deputy commander of a tank division. From 1965 to 1972 Winter was the commander of the 7th Tank Division in Dresden. He has been a major general since March 1966. As one of the deputy chiefs of the ground forces, in his last assignment Winter was responsible for the training in the People's Army. [Text] [Bonn INFORMATIONEN in German No 8, Mar-Apr 77 p 13]

CSO: 2300

HUNGARY

DAILY CARRIES LEADERS' MESSAGE TO CSSR COUNTERPARTS

Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 8 May 77 p 3 AU

[Hungarian Leaders' Message on the Occasion of the National Holiday of Czechoslovakia"]

[Text] On the occasion of the 32d anniversary of the liberation of Czechoslovakia, MSZMP Central Committee First Secretary Janos Kadar, Presidential Council Chairman Pal Losonczi and Council of Ministers Chairman Gyorgy Lazar sent the following greetings message to Dr Gustav Husak, first secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR president, and Dr Lubomir Strougal, chairman of the CSSR Government, in Prague:

Dear Comrades:

On behalf of the MSZMP Central Committee, the Presidential Council and Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic and the Hungarian people as a whole, we send you and the fraternal peoples of the CSSR our comradely greetings and heartfelt good wishes on the occasion of the 32d anniversary of the liberation of Czechoslovakia.

The Hungarian people follow the work of the peoples of the neighboring CSSR with sincere sympathy and fraternal solidarity. They pay tribute to the results they have attained under the leadership of their tested party in the area of political, economic and cultural life and in the building of an advanced socialist society.

We highly value the consistent struggle waged by the CSSR to strengthen the unity of the socialist community, consolidate peace and international security and defend the trend of detente, a struggle which constitutes a significant contribution to the success of the struggle waged on a world scale for socialism and social progress.

We are sincerely pleased that relations between the MSZMP and the CPCZ are constantly expanding on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. Fraternal friendship and cooperation

between the peoples of the Hungarian People's Republic and the CSSR are developing with undiminished force and are serving equally the interests of our countries and peoples and of the socialist community as a whole.

On the occasion of your national holiday, we wish you and the fraternal peoples of the CSSR further successes in making your socialist fatherland continue to prosper and implementing the resolutions of the 15th CPCZ Congress.

CSO: 2500

'MAGYAR HIRLAP' MARKS CENTENARY OF ROMANIA'S INDEPENDENCE

Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 8 May 77 p 4 AU

[Unattributed article: "Romania's Centenary"]

[Excerpt] The creation of a homogeneous, independent and sovereign state brought about favorable prerequisites for Romania's economic, social, political and cultural development. However, under conditions of the bourgeois-estate owner system, because of an increasing exploitation of the masses, a penetration of foreign capital and a pressure by imperialist powers, it was difficult for this development to make headway. The country's independence was in danger on several occasions, too. However, the workers class, which became the vanguard of progressive forces under the leadership of its party, was growing stronger. The great October Socialist Revolution, the concepts of Lenin, imparted an impetus to the revolutionary struggle of the masses, which, following the victories of the Soviet Army, led to the August 1944 antifascist uprising. This was the beginning of the creation of a new and free life, social justice and progress in Romania.

The country was also able to obtain its true independence in the years of socialism, when the exploiting classes were overthrown and the rule of the people, under RCP leadership, was able to tackle the implementation of the socialist revolution.

Romania, which became independent 100 years ago--the Romanian Socialist Republic--is linked through fraternal friendship and many-sided cooperation to the rest of the socialist countries. This alliance is the principal guarantee for all of our progress and development and the independence of our countries.

Friendship between the Romanian and Hungarian people has long traditions rooted in struggles waged for freedom and progress. Hostility fomented by reactionary regimes tried to break this friendship between two neighboring peoples--peoples living together, in a strict sense of the term, in a large area--but it has been safeguarded and fostered throughout by progressive and revolutionary forces.

Our friendship based on the identity of the social system and embodied in CEMA, the Warsaw Pact and bilateral ties is acquiring increasingly new content in the years of socialist construction.

On the centenary of the independence of Romania as a state, we wish the Romanian people, who are building socialism, much success.

CSO: 2500

HUNGARY

MSZMP'S KADAR GREETES WARSAW CONFERENCE OF BUILDERS OF PEACE

Budapest. MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 7 May 77 p 3 AU

[Message by MSZMP Central Committee First Secretary Janos Kadar to the Warsaw Conference of Builders of Peace, read at the 6 May session of the conference by Dr Rezso Trautmann, deputy chairman of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, chairman of the Budapest PPF Committee and head of the Hungarian delegation at the Warsaw Conference: "Hungarian Greetings"]

[Text] On behalf of the MSZMP Central Committee and the Hungarian people, I respectfully greet you, the participants in the General World Conference of the Builders of Peace, who have gathered from all parts of the world with the common intention of making efforts in the interests of the cardinal cause of mankind, the defense and building of world peace.

The General World Conference of the Builders of Peace is taking place at a time, when, as a result of the consistent peace policy of the Soviet Union and the countries of the socialist community and the efforts of the supporters of peace and detente over several decades, a new phase was opened in international relations. Promising steps have been taken to implement peaceful coexistence and fruitful cooperation between countries with different social systems. The signing of the final document of the conference on security and cooperation in Europe was a historic milestone in the process of international detente. The realization of the stipulations of the final document is a contribution to consolidating peace and security not only in Europe, but in the world.

The peace movement, which is developing with increasing force in the wake of the new Stockholm appeal urging military detente and disarmament with its hundreds of millions of signatures, proves that a growing camp of people with a sense of responsibility for the destiny of the world supports the struggle for peace, detente and disarmament.

At the same time, we are filled with apprehension by the fact that the enemies of peace and imperialist forces interested in the arms race are striving to obstruct the process of international detente and military

detente. I am convinced that the collaboration of all the progressive and peace-loving forces of the world and their joint acts will be able to insure European and world peace even in spite of the opponents of detente.

The Hungarian people are laboring to build a socialist society. Peace is a vital prerequisite for the attainment of our objectives. The Hungarian People's Republic is pursuing a consistent peace policy. It is striving to develop, on the basis of mutual interests, a fruitful political, economic and cultural cooperation with all countries.

Convinced that your highly significant conference in the capital of the Polish People's Republic will be an outstanding landmark in the struggle underway for peace, detente, disarmament and social progress, I wish you full success in your work. I can assure you that, as they have done before, the MSZMP and the Hungarian People's Republic will do their best also in the future to consolidate and further develop the process of detente and to curb the arms race.

[Signed] Janos Kadar, first secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee.

CSO: 2500

MILITARY HEALTH SERVICE DISCUSSED

Budapest NEPHADSEREG in Hungarian 16 Apr 77 pp 8-9

[Article: "Health Protection in Our People's Army"]

[Text] Our people, building a developed socialist society, has always turned great care, in accordance with the possibilities, to health protection. After overcoming the thousands of wide-spread diseases we have now reached the point where even by world standards we occupy an outstanding position in the area of health services. The free medical service recently made available to all has further improved our health protection situation. And how does health protection stand in our people's Army? We recently held a round table conference on this which was participated in by Medical Major General Dr Laszlo Vamos, Medical Major General Dr Gyorgy Janos, Medical Colonel Dr Jozsef Koronczay, Medical Colonel Dr Ferenc Szanto, Colonel Gyorgy Sandor, Medical Major Dr Ferenc Villanyi and Imre Laszlo Ujvari, representing our paper.

NEPHADSEREG: What is the general situation in the area of military health service development; what achievements can we report to our readers?

Dr Laszlo Vamos, medical major general: Two requirement systems fundamentally define health service in the Hungarian People's Army. One is the special health requirements deriving from battle readiness and training tasks; the other is the requirements made on health services in the course of building our socialist society, requirements summed up by social policy principles. These two fundamental requirements define the development of thinking in regard to a further development of health services in every 5-year planning period. In the period just past we tried to enrich the opportunities for examination and treatment which could be carried out on the spot, among the troops. In the interest of this we expanded and enriched health service equipment. For example, we supplied troop dispensaries with equipment which could be used to prevent the immediate dangers to life resulting from accidents and to transport the wounded.

We tried to raise to a higher level the diagnostic activity in the troop dispensaries. In the interest of facilitating laboratory examinations we are using so-called quick diagnostic tests. Their use will make possible an

indication of fundamental laboratory deviations on the basis of which the physician can decide, on the basis of the condition of the patient, whether to treat the patient on the spot or refer him to an out-patient institution or hospital.

We have supplied some of the troop dispensaries with modern dental equipment too. Let me note that we are dissatisfied with dental service. In part the reason for this is the unfavorable general dental condition characteristic of the inducted youth but the other reason is that we can provide dental service to small units only by means of the over-burdened council health service. We plan to solve this by developing mobile dental ambulances.

In the past period we further developed the system of screening examinations for professional and inducted soldiers in the area of treatment and prevention. In the screening examinations we pick out those with deviations in their health condition whose timely treatment will lead to prevention of disease. This screening or screening system has special tasks also such as determining suitability for certain branches of service. Another task of the screening examination is prevention of certain occupational diseases.

As a result of the new home defense law and the measures published in the meantime the supply of troop physicians is developing more favorably as compared to earlier 5-year periods. All this is making it possible for our troop physicians to do not only strictly medical tasks but also everything which belongs to the concept of complex military health service within the framework of a unit.

The other basic aspect of our health service is the institutional network. The institutional side consists basically of out-patient institutions and hospitals. In this 5-year period we are trying to attach an out-patient institution to every one of our hospitals. The first step in this was supplying a large capacity out-patient institution for the Central Military Hospital and Military Hospital Number One.

We want to develop the level of specialized medical activity in the hospitals in two directions. One is the so-called intensive patient service. The essence of this is that wounded or sick patients in critical condition should have acute dangers prevented by means of three shift treatment with a high degree of instrumentation.

The other essential area in developing the institutions is automation of the laboratories. The laboratory diagnostic requirements needed to examine or treat each patient are rising sharply. We have decided that we cannot meet these demands by increasing personnel nor is this the best solution. For this reason we need automatic diagnostic equipment which will make possible many types of examinations for large numbers of patients. In this area we have achieved significant results primarily in Military Hospital Number Two and in the Central Military Hospital.

We have also made progress in another large area of health service--we have created a public health and epidemiology control system which depends organizationally on the chiefs of the health service in regiments [seregtest] and higher units and on the public health and epidemiology stations of the Hungarian People's Army. To facilitate this work we have combined into a uniform system and published the regulations governing these tasks. It is in part thanks to the development of this control system that for a number of years there have not been large scale infectious outbreaks which would endanger the execution of training or battle readiness tasks in our people's army.

The supply of physicians in our troop units has developed favorably and a further favorable development can be expected. As a result we foresee that in 1977-1978 we will be able to realize an idea we had earlier but which could not be realized earlier because of the realistic situation, namely assigning doctors who have spent several years in troop service to 6 month or 1 year tours in hospitals. This is needed in part to refresh their knowledge and in part to get the practice needed for speciality training.

The new home defense law has aided an improvement in our cadre situation. Those graduating in medical, dental or pharmacy specialities carry out 12 months of military service. They thus have an opportunity not only for military training and for expanding their military health knowledge but also for 9 months of service with the troops during which they give extraordinarily useful aid to our physicians working in the troop health branch. Their service with the troops, which is longer than before, makes possible a continuous observation of the health condition of the inductees and the mutual effect of the burdens on the youth and of the effectiveness of training, facilitates their fitting in, etc. There is also an opportunity for the health service to turn greater attention to those youths who are classified as fit for military service but who have certain defencts.

In the past few years our cadre situation has developed reassuringly in the institutional branch also. In the course of several decades of activity our medical officers have won recognition and respect not only from the Hungarian People's Army but also from Hungarian health affairs. It is thanks to these comrades also that their replacements have been ensured in a harmonious fashion. As a result of their educating their replacements their separation has not meant a decrease in the professional level.

NEPHADSEREG: How are the development and achievements of the military health service reflected in the everyday life of the soldiers?

Dr Ferenc Villanyi, medical major: The complex screening examinations, the regular care and the personnel and material conditions available in the troop aid stations have significantly improved the earlier situation. The number of professional soldiers referred for specialty or hospital treatment has gradually decreased in recent years, the time lost from training has thus decreased and the ratio of those effectively healthy has increased. Despite the fact that health service has improved at every level there are increasing numbers of inductees who have physical or psychological deviations which do not decrease their service abilities but which do require increased care.

The introduction and effective operation of the public health and epidemiology control system ensure at a high level the quartering, feeding and work hygiene circumstances of the soldiers. The work hygiene service has meant, from the viewpoint of the soldiers, progress in the area of work protection and work hygiene while it has meant an extension of the troop health service to appointed and contract civilian employees too.

The effectiveness of health service is increased if we combine the forces and tools available--for example the health service operating within a single camp but belonging to different units. Let us take an imaginary example: Health services of three units or sub-units operate within a single camp, each with, let us say, three health service non-coms. A combined camp dispensary could count on nine non-coms and with good organization the work could be divided up among them so that treatment and prevention work and health services for training tasks could be provided and there would be an opportunity for regular further training too. In the future we will try to set up a network of combined camp dispensaries.

The health affairs, technical and material level of the troop aid stations, which surpasses the level of civilian dispensaries at the same level, ensures the general speciality requirements. For example, almost every troop aid station has modern dental equipment. The technical conditions for life-saving medical first aid and quick diagnostic tests are available everywhere.

During exercises we try to see that the participants practice and master the necessary health knowledge such as first aid, evacuation of wounded, etc.

NEPHADSEREG: We have heard that the troop aid stations are being modernized and that combining them will further increase the level of patient services. What is the situation in our hospitals? Are they keeping up with the development of medical science and the introduction of new, modern procedures? And what is the situation in regard to mechanization?

Dr Gyorgy Janos, medical major general: The military health institutions include regional hospitals which have the task of providing general hospital services in the area of basic specialities and there is a specialized institution, the Central Military Hospital, in which there is a practical and scientific cultivation of the most significant specialities. We should see clearly that in addition the military health service is part of the national health service as a whole in which every citizen participates equally on the basis of a right given by law. This makes it possible for us not to have to cultivate every one of the specialities with equal weight. Precedence is given to those which are most essential in peace and war from the viewpoint of military health service. For this reason we have developed our large complex traumatology departments, the burns department, toxicology, radiation therapy, the isotope laboratory and intensive therapy. At the same time we have not developed heart and vascular surgery or organ transplant. This is not because we do not consider these important but rather because we have striven for a rational concentration of our existing forces and tools.

The modern functioning of our patient departments is ensured by the good and outstanding special training of our medical and middle cadres, the better than average instrumentation and unimpeded pharmaceutical supply. Modernization should also include a consistent realization of hospital polyclinical units in our institutions and active preventive care in a number of disease groups. What we must certainly develop further within these organizational frameworks, and the directions for this have been given to us by the plan, is a closer link between our specialist and specialized institutions and basic services, the work of the troop physicians.

Let me speak briefly of the technical development of machine supply. Mechanization is a supplementary part of treatment work and in general is a function of the treatment profile. It is obvious that there is a great difference between the value of the instruments of an internal medicine, surgery or X-ray department. But this does not mean that the internal medicine department, which has relatively smaller instrument requirements, works less efficiently than, for example, the surgical department which requires more instruments. I can say, however, that we have all those domestic and foreign machines which the execution of high level treatment work requires. Indeed, we also have foreign medicines at our disposal. We have never told a soldier to try to get expensive or difficult to acquire medicines through relatives or friends. We take care of the sick.

NEPHADSEREG: There has already been mention of the link between troop aid stations and the military hospitals. Let us expand the theme and talk of the link between the troops and the military hospitals--including the troop health service.

Dr Jozsef Koronczay, medical colonel: For decades out-patient and in-patient service in the army health service institutions, including our hospitals, has been integrated. The same doctors take care of post-hospitalization treatment as took care of the patients in the hospitals. But this is only part of our work. A modern health service devotes as much care to prevention of diseases as it does to returning sick individuals to duty as soon as possible. An indispensable condition for this is close cooperation with the troop health service. There has been significant progress in this area in recent years. Our hospitals participate actively in university and home defense instruction. The military medicine scholarship students spend their practice time in our hospitals so we can build later cooperation with the future professional or reserve physicians on favorable foundations.

The number of young troop physicians who continue to maintain direct contact with the hospital has increased also. This has a favorable influence on both troop work and hospital work. Some of the troop physicians are young and inexperienced professionally and militarily. It is difficult for them to find the correct proportions between their medical tasks and their tasks as officers. The one or the other is overemphasized and this leads to tension. For this reason we are taking the initiative in making contact with the commanders and political workers of units referred to us. At the initiative

of the political department of one of the higher units we have discussed within organized frameworks the questions of mutual interest. As a result we have had exchanges not only with all the political workers of the higher unit but also with the professional soldiers of the various local units and the troop physicians participated in these.

At these exchanges of view we went beyond a deepening of personal contacts and also talked about preventing diseases and rehabilitating patients. We spoke especially about tasks in connection with inductees struggling with the difficulties of fitting in and about tasks in connection with professional soldiers who get sick from fatigue or exhaustion for we can carry out these health education tasks only together with the command and political staffs.

Out-patient care presents the greatest problem for us. The number of patients reporting for examinations has increased in recent years and our clinics are often over-crowded. There are many reasons for this increase in traffic. The hospital clinics have been forced to assume many tasks which do not belong to their medical specialty, since the troop physician service has not been strengthened sufficiently. To a significant degree psychological problems are causing the increase in unfitness for duty. The reasons are in part that some of the inductees are unprepared physically or mentally and in part that the sometimes one-sided emphasis on military requirements creates a strained emotional atmosphere. In this regard our scientific interest in turning toward the mental hygiene of small military communities. On the basis of research work we have reported our experiences to the professional soldiers of the units involved and on this basis we have initiated rehabilitation work with the members of the professional staff who have reached a crisis struggling with exhaustion complaints.

We feel that the new paths for modern peace-time health service are given in building up contact between the regional hospitals and the combined troop dispensaries which offer higher level service and in a certain sense this also offers practical experience for a model for field health service.

NEPHADSEREG: I feel that we should speak a little more about the cooperation between the commanders and the political organs and the health service. What are they doing and what can they do together, for example, to ease the fitting in of the recruits?

Gyorgy Sandor, colonel: Good cooperation is of especially great significance at the time of induction. We know well the problems young people have with adjustment and a basic survey of the state of health of the young people is today indispensable in this regard. Many factors justify this. Although it is an indisputable fact that the mental and physical maturity of the youth being inducted is much better today than 20 years ago it is also true that the demands made by military service have increased substantially. On the other hand, because of the development of the population of youth we cannot reject the more weakly prepared. Thus the fitness of those inducted with certain defects is one of the most important classification principles which we

must take into consideration when assigning them. In this regard we should follow the profound humanity of our society which wants to ensure self-realization to everyone so that each can become a useful member of a narrower or broader community. To give one example, because of physical defects not every youth can serve in the tank corps but certainly he could be a good radar operator, truck driver, signal corps soldier or something else, could serve effectively in some no less important assignment. But if we do not pay sufficient attention to the fitness of the youths so that they serve in an assignment incompatible with their fitness we create great difficulties in regard to carrying out their tasks and in regard to preserving and improving their health.

Another no less important cooperation requirement arises in connection with the emotional-psychological condition of the youths or rather in connection with improving it. Public opinion and the morale of the soldiers are affected by very many factors but we can state with assurance that it can be critical for a youth whether he meets with support or rejection from his soldier comrades in difficult moments. More tense or weaker nervous conditions, lack of order and of organization are phenomena of our age. These behavioral phenomena are expressed in many different ways and it is sometimes very difficult to decide what measures are needed and where. But in most cases even in an active phase of psychotherapy treatment we cannot dispense with the active and positive cooperation of the environment surrounding the soldier.

It is perhaps obvious from what has been said that the health service can carry out its tasks well only in close cooperation with the commanders and party political workers of the troops. The helpful work of the social organs in the army, of the KISZ communities, is indispensable in this.

I would like to add to all this that the ideological-political education of those working in the health service institutions is an important part of the development of modern treatment procedures and of health service at an ever higher level. In our day a physician with a developed world view, armed with the progressive ideals of the age, can truly keep pace with the development of medical science and can become capable of successful practical application of the newest knowledge. In addition only he can effectively treat the increasingly socialized man of our age who can measure the public life pulse of this society, judge it and understand it. For this reason also the leaders and commanders of our institutions are turning great care to the political training of their staffs. The organizers and executors of the party-political activity in the institutions are the party organizations working there which, with very rich experiences, are aiding ever more effectively the realization of fundamental goals.

NEPHADSEREG: The question arises here: What is the situation of the physicians, nurses, assistants, etc. working in the military health service institutions, what are they doing and what have they achieved in strengthening and developing the socialist spirit of health work?

Dr Ferenc Szanto, medical colonel: The social situation of the medically trained staffs of our hospitals--physicians, nurses and assistants--has developed well, especially in recent years. Their pay scales, in accordance with the principles of socialist wage payment, are well adjusted to their role in treatment and express their responsibility, work done and level of training. A good application of our payment system ensures the possibility of recognizing outstanding performance.

One sign of the care being taken by the army leadership is the considerable proportion of promotions primarily among those doing direct patient care activity. As a result of the strong commitment of our workers the ratio of regular staff members exceeds two thirds of our entire staff. In addition to the methods used thus far to recognize regular staff members--paid leave, special awards, gold wreathed insignia--they are the first to be considered when awarding ministerial or even government decorations.

It is well known that in our homeland the ratio of female workers is highest in health affairs, after the textile industry. For this reason we are dealing continuously and with special attention with their problems, in accordance with the spirit of the women's protection law. For example, many housing problems have been solved in the past 3 years and in the majority of cases their children have been placed in nurseries and kindergartens. We help young people fit in and in solving the problems of starting a career.

Naturally what has been said cannot mean that we have nothing to do in improving the social situation of our workers and their living and working conditions. We see our most urgent tasks especially in a further improvement of the social situation of our female workers with several children and working three shifts, in a continuing solution of the still existing housing problems and in a development of place of work conditions. We must examine a further expansion of our resort possibilities and the problems of creating nurse homes and dressing rooms.

NEPHADSEREG: What is being done in our hospitals in the interest of strengthening the ethical situation and raising the level of the socialist health service?

Dr Ferenc Szanto, medical colonel: That health worker meets the demands of socialist ethics who deals with the patient in a way and to the extent that his condition requires. Public opinion and even the law oblige health workers to give the best of their ability at the highest level in accordance with the state of medical science, to treat the sick in the spirit of the law, without any special recompense, and to enrich by their behavior the conditions of hospital, clinic and regional medical service.

One of the crucial requirements of health service ethics involves the knowledge of health workers, study and self-training to keep up with the development of information in professional and political areas alike. The health service worker must know that his ethics depend not only on his morality but also on his scientific training and in the final analysis our ethics mean a synthesis of these two.

Therefore we regard it as an important task that our workers know that system of requirements which is posed in this respect by the health affairs law and by the leadership of the people's army. The commanders of our health institutions, with the aid of the party organizations, the trade union, the KISZ and the Red Cross, conduct broad enlightenment work on this theme. At the same time we care in a planned and organized fashion for the professional further training of our professional health staff within and outside the institutions.

Last year we started a "Socialist Collective" movement which has become a broad mass movement in our institutions and which also serves this goal. We make the workers interested in carrying out the professional tasks standing before the hospitals by listening to their opinions and recommendations in regard to patient care also. The realization of socialist democracy gives all of us an opportunity to guarantee an extensive control possibility not only in the formulation of tasks but also in their assignment and execution. Today the judgment of human behavior and activity takes place publicly in small collectives. We are trying thus to create an atmosphere in which violations of discipline or unethical behavior will evoke the antipathy of the great majority. It is thanks to this that there are an insignificant number of complaints in regard to the relations of our health workers with patients or in regard to mistakes made in care and treatment of patients.

It is our task to raise and modernize the level of service in our hospitals and in every branch of military health service in keeping with the development of medical science and of the Hungarian People's Army, to strengthen the realization of the prevention view and thus to expand active treatment activity.

8984

CSO: 2500

POLISH SAM OPERATION DESCRIBED

Warsaw ZOLNIERZ POLSKI in Polish 1 May 77 pp 12-13

[Article by Boleslaw Jagielski: "Study in Green"]

[Text] Rocket troops of the Home Air Defense are one of the basic means of fighting against airborne targets. Their task is to destroy means of aerial attack before these means reach the boundary line of the target area.

Subordinate units of rocket troops of the Home Air Defense perform continuous combat duties and are in constant readiness to repulse attacks from the air.

The task of each rocket subunit of the Home Air Defense Troops is to detect on time and identify means of aerial attack of the enemy, to track them and intercept them, and finally to destroy them at the approaches to the defended facility.

Guided antiaircraft missiles, which are part of the hardware of the Home Air Defense Troops, are designed for fighting against airborne targets operating at low and high altitudes at a great speed and under conditions when radioelectric jamming is used, and they can fight against aerial targets regardless of the season of the year, time, and meteorological conditions.

Rockets surpass all other combat weapons in their effectiveness in hitting aerial targets.

We are now entering the 33d year of peacetime, a period of time filled with hard work, during which Poland has been growing in strength. This strength consists in the effects of the work of each of us [Poles] who are employed either in industry or agriculture or anywhere else--work performed with a feeling of security under conditions of the contemporary world where work is protected by those whose privilege it is to watch over it: the soldiers of the Polish Armed Forces, and among them, the soldiers of the Home Air Defense Troops.

The pictures do not show it [photos not reproduced], but the fact is that the rocket-firing soldiers sow grass and take care of it on the embankments of the rocket-launching platforms, although they know the moment a rocket is fired the flames coming from the exhaust nozzles will burn everything to

the last blade of grass. Green and blue are the colors which are closest to the soldiers handling antiaircraft rockets. Green (and white in wintertime) because their stopping places, which incidentally change quite often, are located inside forests, in which trees are cut to form small clearings under the rocket launchers. Blue because that is most often the color of the sky into which the rocket missiles are fired as soon as the alarm is sounded.

Again, the pictures do not show it, but the rockets with their characteristic cigarlike shape are not the only engineering creations that form the "possessions" of the forest garrison of rocket-firing soldiers, even though they are their most modern equipment. Motor tractors with rocket-carrying trailers, cranes for moving the rockets from the trailers to the launchers, covered trucks of all types: these are only some of the service mechanisms used for handling rockets. One should also bear in mind that there is equipment which is housed separately but constitutes an integral part of them. Such equipment is as follows: apparatus for tracking the target and the rocket, the rocket-guiding apparatus, the index apparatus which controls the entire rocket launcher at the command post, and a set of systems for computing the rocket's trajectory.

What else cannot be seen in the pictures? Certainly all those soldiers who are part of a rocket unit team. And even those whose pictures have been taken do not look in any way different from the soldiers of other types of troops. If they were shown by themselves, without rockets in the background, only rocket soldiers would recognize them to be rocket soldiers. In the same way, the "eyes" of the camera did not penetrate the covered trucks, the cabins containing shelves with innumerable drawers, screens, flickering red and green lights, small windows with luminous inscriptions, switches, push-buttons and distribution boards.

In an assignment dealing with rocket soldiers, the photo reporter can be helped only to a limited extent by the journalist who accompanies him. Regardless of what permits he may have at his disposal, he will not learn about everything from the rocket soldiers. There are details about their life, about the construction of the apparatus, about the functioning of the equipment, and even about purely theoretical problems which must be protected by the strictest secrecy. Protection of secrecy becomes an important element of these activities in the same way as the method of rocket control, the method of computing data on the target, time, space and movement. That is why the people who serve here, who are here on combat duty, generally do not say much.

On the other hand, we can see in the pictures showing a rocket being readied for firing, which is shown in all details, how it could be done. It is an operation in which the steps and movements of the hands of the soldiers are calculated with precision. Their purpose, among other things, is to put the rocket in the proper position, horizontally as well as vertically.

The rockets shown in the pictures were not launched, otherwise it would have been recorded on the plate. But the sounding of the alarm may not

have been necessarily a training alarm. There are no false alarms for antiaircraft rocket soldiers. This time, the target was some Polish airplane, an unidentified object. It took a little while before the matter was cleared up, during which time the rockets on the launching platforms were turned upward at a sharp angle, and the soldiers servicing the rockets rushed to prepare for launching the second rockets that could replace at the launching platforms those rockets which would have been fired. But since everything was cleared up, the rockets were returned to their previous horizontal position, the lights and screens in the cabins were turned off, and the soldiers were again able to take care of the greenery on the embankments of the combat positions.

5668

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ROMANIA

DISSIDENT ROMANIANS IN PARIS INTERVIEWED

Paris BULETIN DE INFORMATIE PENTRU ROMANI IN EXIL in Romanian 16 Mar 77 pp 5-6

[Letter to Belgrade Conference and Interviews in Paris with Carmen and Sergiu Manoliu: "Exclusive Interview Between BIRE and Two of the Signers of the Letter Sent to the Belgrade Conference. Mrs and Mr Manoliu Report Protesting in the Country Since 1974 Against Violations of Human Rights. How the Letter Reached the Editors, Who Are Publishing the Text, and the Existence of Mental Asylums"]

[Text] In the latest issue we reported that two of the first eight signers of the letter sent to the Secretariat of the Belgrade Conference had arrived in Paris from Bucharest, from whence they were "expelled." They are Mrs Carmen-Maria Manoliu and her son Sergiu, age 24, both painters.

On 22 February they were put aboard a TAROM [Romanian Air Transport] airliner for Paris. They arrived here without baggage and with stateless passports. On 24 February they asked French authorities for political asylum, placing themselves under the protection of OFPRA [French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons].

Text of Letter Sent to Belgrade Conference Secretariat

Here, in resume form, is the text of the letter sent to Belgrade on 8 February 1977:

"We request that this letter be made known to the participants in the Belgrade Conference by all information media: radio, press, and television. At the time this letter is made public, it is open to other signers who desire to join it.

"The signers of this letter are arranged in alphabetical order.

"We consider as a fact of special gravity the necessity of an international meeting at the highest level in order to ensure the safeguarding of rights,

freedom and ideas. We protest against all forms of oppression--physical, moral, and intellectual--against camps, against gulags old and new, against pseudopsychiatric hospitals. In the framework of modern dictatorships, laws are not respected by those who have created them, except when such laws directly serve those who are in power.

"We request compliance with the Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Romania, which theoretically guarantees its citizens a number of rights, such as: the right of assembly; organization of demonstrations and associations; freedom of speech, press, and religion; the guarantee of secret correspondence and telephone conversations; the right to work and get an education; freedom of political opinion and the inviolability of person and home. In reality, none of these rights are respected.

"There are countries in which human freedom and dignity are a reality, and some of the people who live in such countries know that there are places in the world where people are kept by force in the place where they were born, where man is made for labor rather than labor for man and where voters vote "unanimously" for candidates who are placed in power despite the voters.

"In conclusion, we thank the eminent participants assembled in Belgrade for defending the rights, liberties, and dignity of human beings."

Exclusive Interview Between BIRE and Mrs and Mr Manoliu

We asked Mrs Carmen Manoliu and her son Sergiu to be so kind as to answer a few questions about their action back home, and how human rights are openly violated. Here are the questions and answers:

[Question] How did you begin to engage in resistance back home?

[Answer] Despite all claims about the impossibility of a resistance movement in Romania, it was our conviction that the idea of winning certain individual liberties is rather widespread, even if the feeling of constraint was present in the consciousness of those willing to confront the risks of taking a more than critical attitude against this state of affairs. For us, the resistance began on 19 February 1974, with the deposition of solemn declarations in the Bucharest State Council, renouncing Romanian citizenship. In this declaration we expressed the decisive refusal to take part, even by virtue of simple inertia, in the countless abuses, practiced in the name of a society or ideology that calls itself progressive but which in reality does nothing but reduce human personality and dignity to nothing. Our declaration renouncing Romanian citizenship constitutes a political act, a protest against the failure to respect human rights or the Constitution by which Socialist Romania is guided. The right to renounce Romanian citizenship is provided for in Law 24/1971, which refers to Romanian citizenship and which until recently was very little known in Romania.

Although in general the Romanian authorities treated this declaration of ours with maximum indifference (by design, certainly), it was nevertheless inevitable that they would try to ascertain our position more exactly through hearings or by inquiring among our acquaintances. And in time, some newspapers and radio stations got interested in this attitude, which led to the publication of several articles in THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG, DAGENS NYHETER, and so on, and a total of eight broadcasts by Radio Free Europe. It was especially through these broadcasts that our case came to be well known in Romania, and since they broadcast not only our names but even our address and telephone number, we were contacted many times by people who listened to the above-mentioned station, not only to congratulate us but also to express their desire to discuss this problem at greater length.

Right after one such broadcast we were contacted by writer Paul Goma.

[Question] How did the letter sent to the Belgrade Conference get to the editors?

[Answer] Movements in support of human rights in the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Hungary greatly stimulated our desire to demonstrate publicly, the desire to see these rights respected in Romania as well. So on 8 February a letter was signed, addressed to participants in the Belgrade Conference, by the following eight persons, in alphabetical order: Adelbert Feher, a metallurgy worker in Oradea; Erwin and Emilia Gessewein of the Bucharest Philharmonic Orchestra; writer Paul Goma; painter Carmen-Maria Manoliu; painter Sergiu Manoliu; writer Anna Maria Navodaru (wife of Paul Goma) and Serban Stefanescu, a 24-year old youth who is out of a job because of his refusal to be involved in the policies and ideology of the Communist Party. With this letter we are demanding that the Romanian laws and Constitution be enforced. The notion of interference in personal affairs needs to be limited so as to prevent the impairment of human rights. The document stipulates that it is open to future signatures of those who wish to come out in favor of the issues which it raises.

[Question] What risk have the signers of this letter incurred, and is it true that there are mental asylums in the country?

[Answer] The risks faced by every one of the initial signers, and later joiners in signing this letter, could not be foreseen, but it is known that many among those who dare to state a point of view different from the one recommended by the RCP could be charged with plotting against the State or at least placed in a mental hospital and declared incompetent. The number of hospitals holding persons who are perfectly sane from a psychiatric standpoint but who hold a critical attitude with respect to the abuses which impair human rights is rather large, but I'll be content to name Bucharest Hospital No 9, the Gataia, the one near Timisoara, the ones in Brasov,

Balaceanca, and others. On the pretexts mentioned above, the Brasov Mental Hospital interned Mr Arpad Molnar, an economist who was ordered to accept retirement forms on grounds of mental disorder, which he does not suffer from, so as not to contaminate the collective in which he works with his much too liberal ideas. Mr Molnar is in the same situation as many other alleged mental patients who, prior to some international political "event" in Romania or a visit by Western dignitaries of a political nature, are interned in mental hospitals or detained by the police so as not to create disturbances. All these persons are booked in the police stations, with a special stamp placed on their identification card, and are released immediately after the "event" which occasioned their arrest is over.

The letter sent to Belgrade has been signed by another 20 persons since the Manoliu's left. Among these signers are: Baptist Pastor Pavel Nicolaescu, Maria and Sandu Gheorghe, Liminita Koller, Marcel and Elena Nuta, Vasile Paraschiv, Paulina Catanescu, Grigore and Rodica Andrei, Prof Morariu and Gheorghe Brasoveanu. (This last one was placed in a mental hospital for holding a conference in his home on "God and Life," but he was released recently).

Press Conference Given by Manoliu's

On 2 March, in the French Commission for Justice and Peace in Paris, Mrs and Mr Manoliu held a press conference to describe in detail the present situation in Romania, the existence of mental hospitals, the violation of human rights, and failure to comply with the Constitution. Correspondents from foreign press agencies were present, including PDP [as published, probably DPA] (Germany), ANSA (Italy), REUTER (Great Britain), [AGENCE] FRANCE-PRESSE, Radio Free Europe, a correspondent from the FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE, and editors from AURORE, FIGARO, and BIRE.

9078

CSO: 2700

ROMANIA

EMIGRE SOURCE REPORTS ON CONGRESS OF BAPTISTS

Paris BULETIN DE INFORMATIE PENTRU ROMANI IN EXIL in Romanian 16 Mar 77 p 3

[Article: "Baptist Church of Romania Congress Removes Old Officials Accused of Collaboration With Communist Regime"]

[Text] The 27th Congress of the Romanian Baptist Church was held in Bucharest on 4 and 5 February. To arrange the congress, negotiations with clerical [reaseriste] authorities lasted a whole year. Some 2,000 Baptists from all over the country participated in the congress, and Baptists from the West were also invited. It was pointed out at the congress that since 1972 20,000 new members have been accepted annually into the Baptist Church. The secretary general of the Romanian Baptist Church and an establishment man, Pastor Ioachim Tunea, and the director of the Baptist Seminary, Dr Ion Bunaciu, were severely criticized by Pastor Iosif Ton of Ploiesti, who came out against the present leadership of the Romanian Baptist Church, a protest in which 50 other pastors joined. Dr Bunaciu, responding to the accusations, vehemently criticized students who have accused him of collaborating with the regime, in particular directing severe criticism against Pastor Pavel Nicolescu (one of the signers of the letter sent to Belgrade, which we discuss at length in this issue) who, in the name of the Baptist Youth of Romania, sent an appeal to Radio Free Europe, which broadcast it. Dr Bunaciu characterized RFE as "a station hostile to Romania," remarking that "Pastor Pavel Nicolescu's action is neither biblical nor moral." In connection with the present activity of the Baptist Church Council, 21 of the faithful took the speaker's stand to criticize collaboration with the present regime. Among speakers from the West there were Dr Gerhard Glass, representing the European Baptist Federation, and Dr Denton Lot, representative of the Baptist Church in the United States. The speakers testified to the difficulties they are confronted with in their pastoral duties, criticizing the attitudes of both Bunaciu and Tunea. An appeal was sent to Ceausescu, requesting that Baptist churches in Romania that have been closed be reopened. The speakers pointed out that hundreds of small churches have been closed. Pastor Iosif Ton emphasized the role of the church in society, denouncing the present policy of the regime in closing churches on the basis of Law 153, which condemns hooliganism and vandalism,

demanding to know how this law can be applied against the Baptist Church. Continuing, Pastor Ton reported that there is proof that Baptist women have been arrested for singing religious songs. Following this speaker, other pastors took the stand to report similar occurrences, remarking that some Baptist children are persecuted in school and in public places.

The congress was presided over by Pastor Pavel Barbatiei. The director of the Department of Religions was present in the hall.

The congress elected a new leadership committee, sweeping out the one serving up to now, which has been accused of collaboration. This is the new committee: Chairman Cornel Mara; Vice Chairmen Traian Grecu and Miha Bella; Secretary General Pavel Barbatiei, and Deputy Secretary General Vasile Talos, both lawyers. Dr Bunaciu was reelected head of the seminary, while former secretary general Ioachim Tunea, stays on in a semiofficial capacity. Many of those joining the leadership committee are in favor of human rights and freedom of speech.

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ROMANIA

BRIEFS

ROMANIAN TROOPS IN MOZAMBIQUE--From a reliable source arriving at Western offices, it has been learned that the Romanian Communist Party has sent to Mozambique some 500 soldiers and officers who are specialists in driving tanks. Soviet tanks of the T 34 and T 54 type, with which the Romanian army is equipped, arrived at the same time as the troops. Some of these troops are stationed in the capital of Mozambique and others, in the northern part of the country, in Nacala. These Romanian troops are under the supervision of some Soviet officers who are in Mozambique. [Text] [Paris BULETIN DE INFORMATIE PENTRU ROMANI IN EXIL in Romanian 1 May 77 p 1]

CSO: 2700

YUGOSLAVIA

SERBIAN ORTHODOX BISHOP PROTESTS MEDIA PORTRAYAL OF CHURCH

Belgrade PRAVOSLAVLJE in Serbo-Croatian 1 Apr 77 p 3

[Article by Simeon, Bishop of Gornji Karlovci]

[Text] Recently domestic television has presented frequently films in which the Orthodox priest is severely belittled, mocked and degraded as a human being.

The film "Uzicka Republika" portrays the Serbian priest as merely a collaborator; we see him at table where he overeats, becomes drunk and gets fat; and we also see him in conversations and negotiations with the occupation force and its collaborators. Yet at that time the Serbian Patriarch Gavrilko (Dozic) was in a camp, many archpriests had been killed, and numerous priests had fallen at the hands of the occupier and his servants. That was the time when the commander for Serbia, General Denkelmann, wrote complaints to Hitler that it was impossible to cooperate with the Serbian Church. That was the time when the units of the priest Vlada Zecevic were already in existence, there somewhere on the borders or the periphery of the Uzicka Republic. That was the time when Father Milan Smiljanic was still alive and active at Zlatibor. Nevertheless, it did not happen that somehow in the confines of the film "Uzicka Republika" we saw the priest Vlada Zecevic and his fighters. In the same manner, in the march of our partisans and their supreme command through Zlatibor, we never saw anyone stop by, even for coffee, at the house of Father Smiljanic, and so forth, and so on, and ever more unpleasant.

It is a notorious fact that in the last 15 years, in television series, and artistic and documentary films, wherever the opportunity has appeared, the Serbian priest has been insulted and coarsely slandered; in the series "Itar Pejo" the same treatment occurred with a priest in Macedonia.

Who can forget the films "Sirota Marija" [The Orphan Marija], "Skupljaci perja" [The Feather Merchants], and "Leptirica" [The Butterfly], in which the Serbian priest was severely degraded. The church press carried a review by someone concerning the first film, and I wrote a review of the second one.

Two months ago in the Croatian National Theater in Zagreb, they presented a drama by a living French author, to which the author himself came for the reprise. We shuddered with shame when we heard him say, in an interview on Zagreb television (conducted by the Croatian Catholic newspaper GLAS KONCILA), how our culture had become known to him through the film "The Feather Merchants." The question arises as to how that cultured Frenchman had understood the Serbian church and the Serbian priest in seeing that film!

We recall that some 15 years ago, shortly after television appeared here, how the film "Opstinsko dete" [The Commune's Child] presented a Serbian priest--with a cigarette in his mouth, standing in his undershirt at the "imperial doors" [of the ikonostasis].

Abuses have also occurred even in documentary films prepared with the blessing of the church. Among others, we would mention the film on life in the Zici monastery. The burial of a nun was shown, but most of the sequences were thoroughly tendentious, particularly the final sequence of the film showing a cell, a nun, a window with bars and the grave below the window.

And How Do Others Behave?

Several years ago, the series "Kuda idu divlje svinje" [Where Do the Wild Pigs Go?] was on Zagreb television for some time. This series showed the Roman Catholic Church in the war (in our war of national liberation) through a priest who collaborated with underground workers and partisans, totally at the high point of a revolution.

When a film was made about Matija Gubec, even though at that historical time the Zagreb Bishop Draskovic was both bishop and secular governor [ban], and therefore Gubec's judge; nevertheless, he was presented very carefully so that nobody could take offense at the historical facts presented, regardless of the actual nature of those facts. And that is as it should be, for we cannot objectively judge a past epoch from the ideological and social standpoint of a new age. No matter how unbearable feudalism appears to us from our day, neither history nor the philosophy of history are in a position to hypothesize today on what might have existed in a prehistoric society, how goods were accumulated and history and culture advanced.

In the recently begun series based on the papers of Svetožar Corovic, in addition to the priest, who is presented as a thief, there is a Moslem priest, but since he is not of the Orthodox faith he is not ridiculed.

It is indisputable that recently, in the cultural sphere and especially in cinematography, the Serbian church has not enjoyed equality with the other religious communities in the country.

Relative to cinematography, and it seems to us, in culture as a whole, political moments receive great respect, primarily those influenced from abroad, but when others are in question, then primitivism, cultural immaturity and political adolescence are poured upon the Serbian priest. He has become the target for the spittle of the conscious and subconscious strivings of a culture that is still trying to find itself in scenes of primitivism and caricatures, which for effects of doubtful value, and perhaps for questionable, dubious goals, constantly pounds upon the dignity of the Serbian priest and the Serbian church.

Looking Back at History

On 27 March 1941, the entire Holy Council of the hierarchy of the Serbian Orthodox Church was gathered in Belgrade. The council was immediately suspended so that the hierarchy, at a serious moment in history, could return and be in their sees, with their priests and their people.

And they were to be found there, and many of them died nobly with their people. Metropolitan Petar Zimonjic refused intervention on his behalf by the Italian court [Queen Helena was related to the Zimonjic family), and died gloriously with his people. The bishop of Gornji Karlovci, Sava Trlajic, refused the offer of the Italians to rescue him by taking him to Belgrade. He sent his mother to Belgrade, but he himself stayed with his people and died gloriously. This is to say nothing of the dignified death of Platon Jovanovic of Banja Luka, or about other bishops and priests who died gloriously and degraded, ranging from the metropolitan of Zagreb Dositej to the bishop of Prague, Gorazd, who was shot as an underground worker and whose distant see was under the jurisdiction of the Serbian Orthodox Church until the war.

How many times there has been mention, in numerous monographs, essays and articles, about the time just before the war and during the war, recalling the brave stand of the Serbian Patriarch Gavrillo, his protest against the pact before Prince Paul, his speech to thousands of Belgrade's citizens from the balcony of the patriarchal residence on 27 March 1941, and his serene stand in confinement and camps (he was in Dachau prison at the end of the war). Yet all of this earns no mention.

We certainly have no vague intention to suggest that anyone embellish history or ignore the facts. But we consider it to be extremely dishonest to practice moral discrimination toward such an institution as the Serbian Orthodox Church has been, both historically and at the present time, particularly when no such discrimination is practiced toward another. This is a totally ideological or similar demon, a suspicious state of consciousness and subconsciousness, that is being vented on a state-making institution such as the Serbian Church.

Free from all chauvinistic and nationalistic prejudices, we can boldly say for posterity and history, that the Serbian nation was not formed during the period of the Nemanjiches, or in the Serbia of the Karadjordjeviches

and Obrenoviches, as much as it was in the rebirth of the Patriarchate of Pec under Makarije Sokolovic. No one of these historical personages did so much to protect and preserve the northern expanses and northern borders of the entity of the state, from a historical perspective. Only rarely in history has a literate or semiliterate priest given so much to his people and its liberty, as has the Serbian priest. As previously stated, it is an unquestionable truth that less than four decades after the restoration of the Pec Patriarchate the first uprisings for liberation occurred under the leadership of patriarchs, bishops and priests.

After all this, what sort of caricatured Serbian Church and deeply degraded Serbian priest will the younger generation and the broad world public receive--for our films are exported. What sort of statements about the Serbian church will be presented to millions of innocent people, simply for the sake of money (particularly hard currency)?

Will not those bombers around our embassies and consulates throughout the world, and those who support and assist them, gain even further support through this treatment of the Serbian priest, thus getting increased weapons against what they often call "Serbocommunism," as if there was also the church which should be destroyed.

We must admit that at times, after the mocking and defaming of the Serbian priest on television, we are ashamed to appear on the streets in our vestments.

We must admit, as well, that in Croatia the television production seems to be different. It is typical there for the director of a series and a film, containing a Serbian priest, to be a Croat, like Edo Galic. He directed Sima Matavulj's "Beogradske price" [Belgrade Stories]. One episode included an Orthodox church service (in part) with the communion service. Everything was shown with dignity and at a highly esthetic level. The same director is conducting a TV series on Nikola Tesla. He and his collaborators, as well as the actor who is playing the role of Father Milutin (Marko Todorovic, who also played Tito in "Uzicka Republika"), came to this writer to discuss and agree upon what should be filmed from Tesla's childhood and schooling, so that it might be as serious and well documented as possible. Much of this was photographed in church and near the church at Metak, and in the church at Karlovac. What will remain of that and how it will be shown remains to be determined, but that part that was done in front of our collaborators in Metak and Karlovac was without qualification on a high level.

We have also followed the press debate and the excerpts from books related to the cult of the Honored Cross and Vidovdan among the Serbs. It is a notorious fact that the Cult of the Honored Cross among the Serbs has been adopted along with orthodoxy, and that cult is no larger, if not somewhat smaller, than among the Greeks, Russians and other orthodox peoples. All the

lovely hymns about the cross appeared in ancient Byzantium, not during the time of the Nemanjic dynasty or later in Serbia. It is true that the cult of Kosovo and of Tsar Lazar was synthesized later in the concept of Vidovdan, but that concept gained nothing from the fact that it did not exist at the end of the 14th century, when Jefemija knitted the coverlet for Prince Lazar, and at the beginning of the 15th century, when the despot Stefan, with his mother Princess Milica, the bishops and priests, and a column of the entire people--which reached from Kosovo to the middle course of the Morava river--carried the relics of their father St Lazar from Kosovo to Lazar's memorial Ravanica.

The relics of Prince Lazar traveled as far as Buda[pest] and Szentandriy. From that city, as later from Vrdnik (Ravanica) they helped Arsenije III Charnojevich and his heirs, the archpriests and priest and the entire Serbian nation in Austro-Hungary, to remain true, to withstand pressures and influences, and to preserve those expanses for today's national community. From the position of his metropolitanate, Arsenije III Charnojevich, by the wile of a great tribune and the stanchness of a great patriot, created in the Austro-Hungarian monarchy all the attributes of a state within a state.

We are not pleading in order to give particular emphasis to these things that we have said. We are, however, appealing for a halt in our culture, particularly in cinematography, to the defaming of the Serbian priest, not only before our public but before the public of the entire world. We ask that at least moral principles be respected toward us, if there are no longer political principles, so that the Serbian church can enjoy moral protection from capriciousness and primitivism in our culture. (From the Office of the Holy Synod of the Archbishop)

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